

SEP 23 2004

Atty. Docket:
126688/0037**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Applicants: **Douglas G. Evans, et al** Art Unit: **3731**
Serial No.: **10/633,254** Examiner: **Not Yet Known**
Filed: **August 1, 2003**
For: **SELF-ANCHORING SLING AND INTRODUCER SYSTEM**

Date: September 23, 2004

SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In compliance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. § 1.56 and pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98, the Examiner's attention is directed to the documents listed on the enclosed Information Disclosure Statement by Applicant form (PTO/SB/08A&B).

Copies of the cited references, which are all U.S. patents, have not been provided, in accordance with the Notice entitled "Information Disclosure Statements May Be Filed Without Copies of U.S. Patents and Published Applications in Patent Applications filed after June 30, 2003" set forth at 1276 O.G. 55. The present application, it should be noted, was filed after June 30, 2003, on August 1, 2003.

The cited references were brought to Applicants' attention in a Search Report and Written Opinion in international patent appln. PCT/US03/24212, which is a counterpart to the instant case. Copies of the Search Report and Written Opinion also have been submitted, and the Examiner may wish to refer thereto for a discussion of the cited art.

SSL-DOCS1 1498759v1

Application No. 10/633,254

Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement filed September 23, 2004

Some of the references identified in the Search Report and Written Opinion, Gellman (U.S. 6,042,534) and Lehe (U.S. 6,273,852), already are of record in this application, and so have not been cited again.

This Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement is being submitted in accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b)(3), to the best of the undersigned's knowledge, before the mailing of an Office Action, and so no fee is believed to be due.

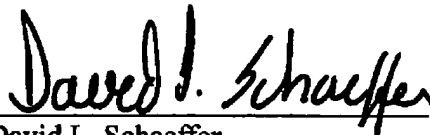
Nevertheless, the Commissioner is authorized to charge any fee which may be required for the filing of this Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement, as well as any other fee which may now or hereafter be due, to Deposit Account No. 19-4709.

It is respectfully requested that the above information be considered by the Examiner and that an initialed copy of the enclosed Information Disclosure Statement by Applicant form (PTO/SB/08A&B) be returned indicating that such information has been considered.

Favorable consideration and prompt allowance of this application is respectfully requested. In the event that there are any questions, or should additional information be required, please do not hesitate to contact applicants' attorney at the number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,

By



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PTO/SB/08a (08-03)

Approved for use through 07/31/2008. OMB 0851-0031
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Substitute for form 1449A/PTO

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT

(Use as many sheets as necessary)

Sheet **1** of **2**

Complete if Known

Application Number	10/633,254
Filing Date	August 1, 2003
First Named Inventor	Douglas G. Evans, et al.
Art Unit	3731
Examiner Name	Not Yet Known
Attorney Docket Number	126688/0037

U. S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

[illegible]

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

[illegible]

Examiner Signature		Date Considered	
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*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. 1 Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). 2 See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov or MPEP 901.04. 3 Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). 4 For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. 5 Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. 6 Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. Do NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

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PTO/SB/08b (08-03)

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Substitute for form 1449B/PTO INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT (Use as many sheets as necessary)		Complete if Known			
		Application Number	10/633,254		
		Filing Date	August 1, 2003		
		First Named Inventor	Douglas G. Evans, et al.		
		Art Unit	3731		
		Examiner Name	Not Yet Known		
Sheet	2	of	2	Attorney Docket Number	126688/0037

NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS			
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.	T ²
		International Search Report for appln. PCT/03/24212 (5/24/2004)	
		Written Opinion for appln. PCT/03/24212 (8/24/2004)	

Examiner Signature		Date Considered	
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¹ Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ² Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached. This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.87 and 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

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